

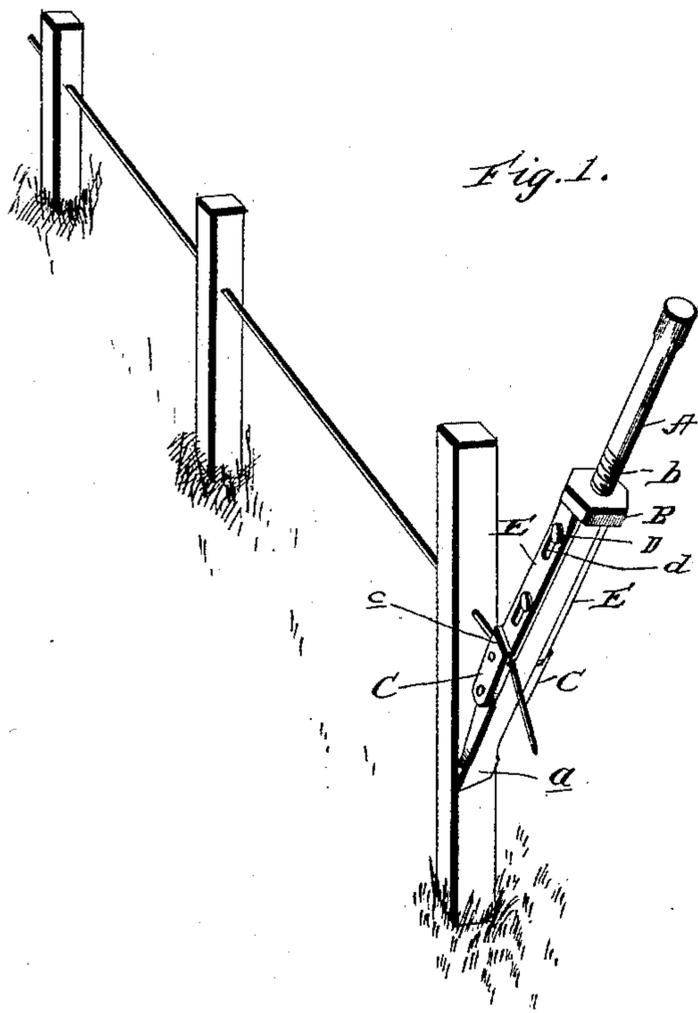
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

G. W. MURPHY.
WIRE WORKING IMPLEMENT.

No. 463,161.

Patented Nov. 17, 1891.



Witnesses:
C. H. Speder
H. F. Matthews.

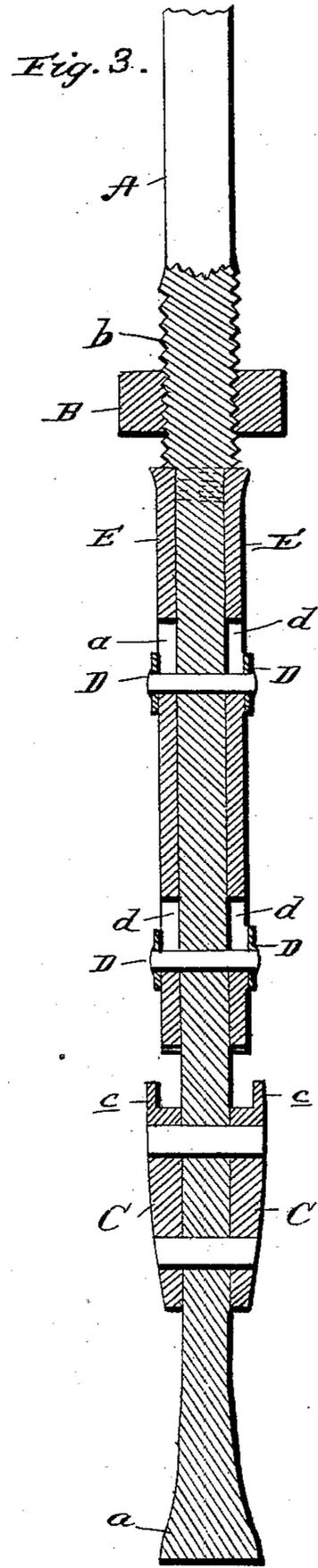
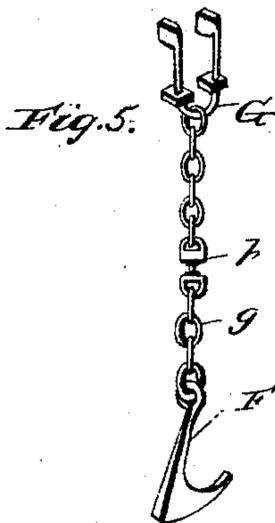
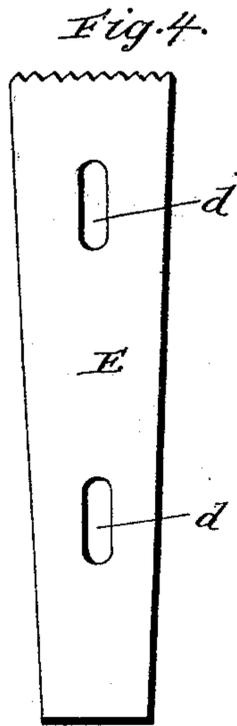
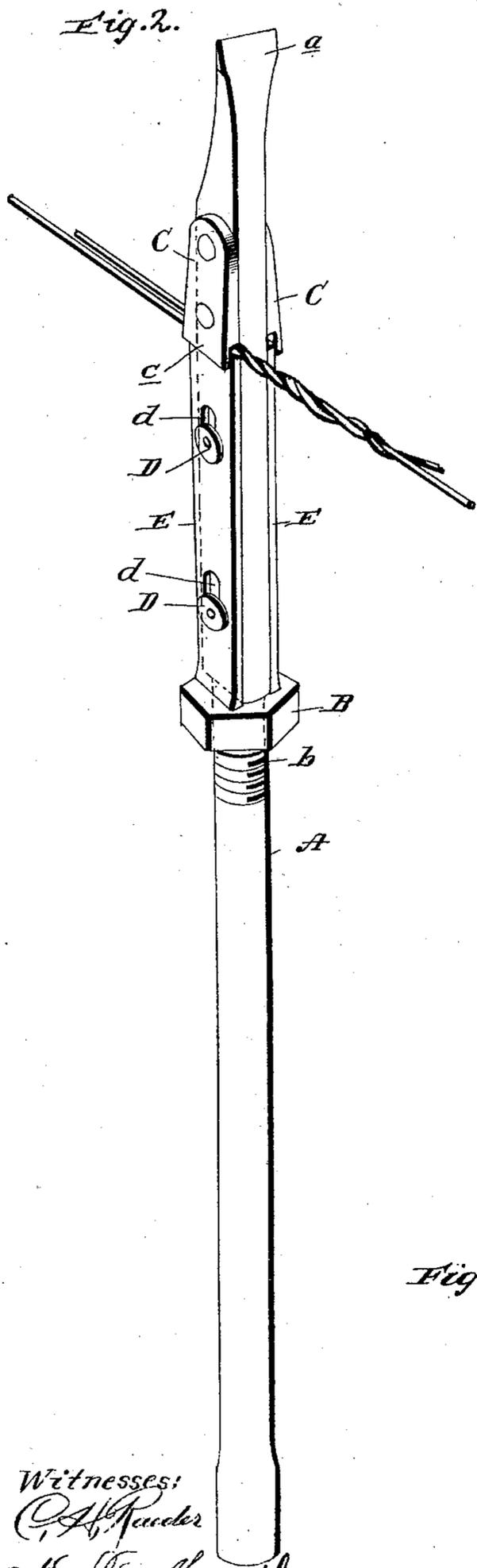
George W. Murphy. *Inventor.*
By James J. Sheehy

Attorney

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Witnesses:
C. A. Rowder
H. S. Matthews

Inventor
George W. Murphy
 By *James Sheehy*
 Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE WASHINGTON MURPHY, OF GEORGETOWN, TEXAS.

WIRE-WORKING IMPLEMENT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 463,161, dated November 17, 1891.

Application filed May 2, 1891. Serial No. 391,334. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE WASHINGTON MURPHY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Georgetown, in the county of Williamson and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wire-Working Implements; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention has relation to that class of implements designed for stretching the wires of a fence while said wires are being nailed or stapled to position; and it consists in the construction, certain novel combinations, and the adaptation of parts, hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a section of a fence, together with my improved lever in the position it assumes when used for stretching the wire of a fence while the same is being nailed in position upon the posts. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of my improved implement employed as a clamp for holding two strands of wire, so that one may be readily twisted about the other. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section of the implement. Fig. 4 is a side elevation of one of the adjustable clamping-plates removed from the implement; and Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a hook and clevis, in conjunction with which my improved implement is sometimes employed.

Referring by letter to said drawings, A indicates the main or body bar of my improved implement, which is of a suitable length and is preferably provided with a flat sharpened end *a*, whereby it may be used for digging and prying purposes when desired. This bar A is provided near one of its ends with a flattened portion of sufficient length and preferably of a rectangular contour in cross-section, and at the inner or lower end of the flattened portion the bar is provided with screw-threads *b*, which are designed and adapted to receive a threaded nut or burr B, which is adapted to bear against and adjust the binding or clamping plates presently to be described.

Formed integral with or suitably attached to opposite sides of the flattened portion of

the bar A are fixed plates or portions C, which have their inner or lower ends recessed to provide seats for the wire and afford flanges *c*, which serve to prevent a lateral displacement of the wire.

Extending laterally from opposite sides of the flat portion of the bar A, at a suitable distance apart, are headed lugs D, which are designed and adapted to serve as guides and keepers for the binding or clamping plates E, which are respectively provided at a suitable distance apart with longitudinal slots *d*, through which the shanks of the lugs take and which slots are of a length suitable to afford the adjustment desired.

The lower or inner ends of the binding or clamping plates E are slightly flared outward, so as to afford a more positive bearing upon the adjusting-nut, and the upper or outer end edges of said plates are preferably toothed or milled, so as to insure a firm engagement with the wire, which is designed to be clamped between said plates E and the fixed plates C.

In conjunction with my improved implement I design employing a hook F, which is connected with the implement by a chain *g*, provided at an intermediate point with a swivel *h* and at its end with a clevis G, which has its branches preferably headed, as illustrated, whereby when clamped between the plates E and shoulders C they are prevented from casual displacement. By attaching a chain to the hook F and suitably fastening the same to a post it will be seen that the bar A is capable of serving as an efficient lever for extracting the post from the ground.

In practice the wire to be stretched is placed in the recess of one of the plates C. The plates E, through the medium of the nut B, are adjusted up, so that the one on the side of the plate C in which the wire is seated will bind upon and clamp the wire between its upper end and the said plate or shoulder C, and the sharpened end of the lever is placed against one of the fence-posts, as shown in Fig. 1, whereby the wire may be easily stretched and held while being nailed or stapled upon the posts. By the provision of the shoulders C and clamping-plates E on opposite sides of the bar it will be readily perceived that two wires might be stretched at

the same time, if desirable; but, as is obvious, I do not desire to confine myself to plates on both sides of the bar, as one fixed plate or shoulder and one clamping-plate will serve
5 the desired purpose.

In addition to its primary use as a lever for stretching the wires of a fence my improved implement may be made to serve the function of a vise, as it is adapted to clamp and
10 hold two strands of wire, as illustrated in Fig. 2, so that the same may be readily twisted or tied by another implement or by hand. In some instances it is obvious that one strand
15 of wire might be clamped on each side of the bar and the bar turned to twist the same. It is also obvious that instead of attaching plates, as C, to opposite sides of the main bar lateral
20 shoulders might be formed integral with said bar to serve the same purpose; but the attached plates are preferable, as they may be readily removed and replaced by others in case of injury.

Having described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent,
25 is—

1. In a fence-building implement, the combination, with the main or body bar provided with a fixed shoulder on its side and having
30 screw-threads at a suitable point in its length and the lugs extending laterally from the side having the shoulder, of the binding or clamping plate provided with longitudinal slots adapted to receive the lugs and the internally-threaded nut adapted to engage the
35 threads on the bar and to bear against and

adjust the clamping-plates, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. An implement for building fences, comprising the main or body bar having a flat and sharpened end and provided with screw-
40 threads at a suitable point in its length, the shoulder-plates attached to opposite sides of said bar and having their inner edges recessed, the lugs extending laterally from the sides of the bar, having the shoulder-plates,
45 the binding or clamping plates provided with longitudinal slots adapted to receive the lugs, and the internally-threaded nut adapted to engage the nuts on the bar and to bear against
50 and adjust the clamping-plates, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

3. In a fence-building implement, the combination, with a main or body bar provided with fixed shoulders on two of its opposite
55 sides, the binding-plates so attached to said bar as to be longitudinally adjustable, and a suitable means for adjustably fixing said plates, of a hook, a chain connected at one
60 end to said hook and provided with a swivel, and a clevis also connected to the chain and having its branches headed, whereby when it is clamped between the shoulders and plates it is prevented from casual misplacement,
substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in
65 presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE WASHINGTON MURPHY.

Witnesses:

T. B. COCHRAN,
I. F. BATTAILE.